

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/673,806

Examiner

Brad Y. Chin

Applicant(s)

MCELLEN, JOHN J.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/7/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's claims 1-3, include the limitations for an air treatment unit, comprising a (1) module power socket; (2) an air treatment duct, where the module power socket is located proximate the top of the air treatment duct; and (3) a light module, which comprises a housing with a baffle, a side wall, and a lip, where the lip selectively engages the top of the air treatment duct with the sidewall extending downwardly from the lip so that the baffle extends across the air path; an integral ultraviolet light source and light source socket, where the light source socket is fixed to the baffle; and a connector located at the lip of the housing, where the housing mates with the module power socket, such that the light module cannot be fully removed from its engagement with the air treatment duct without disconnecting the mating of the connector and the module power socket.

Nelson et. al. [U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0039577], Summers et. al. [U.S. Patent No. 6,797,966], Russell et. al. [U.S. Patent No. 6,838,057], and Spanton [U.S. Patent No. 6,589,486] teach air purifying/treatment units/apparatus, but fail to teach the limitations as described above. Nelson et. al. teach an air treatment unit, comprising a module power socket; an air treatment duct having an interior defining an air path between a top and bottom of the air duct; a light module, comprising a housing having a baffle, a side wall, and a lip, where the lip selectively engages the top of the air duct, with the sidewall extending downwardly from the lip so that the baffle extends across the air path; an integral ultraviolet light source and light source socket, where the UV light source is fixed to the light source socket, which is fixed to the baffle and extending through the interior of the air treatment duct to expose UV from the UV light source when the UV light source is powered; and a connector mated with the module power socket, where the connector is in power transmissive communication with the light source

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socket, but fails to teach that the module power socket is located proximate the top of the air duct and that the connector is located at the lip of the housing. Summers et. al. teach an air treatment duct adapted to be used in an air treatment duct having an interior defining an air path between a top and bottom of the air treatment duct, comprising a light module, comprising a housing having a sidewall and lip, where the lip selectively engages the top of the air treatment duct; an integral UV light source and light source socket, where the UV light source exposes UV light to the interior of the air treatment duct when the UV light source is powered, but fails to teach the module power socket, where the module power socket is located proximate the top of the air treatment duct, a baffle extending across the air path, the sidewall extending downwardly from the lip of the baffle, the UV light source and light source socket fixed to the baffle, and a connector located at the lip of the housing for mating with the module power socket and being in transmissive communication with the light source socket. Russell et. al. teach an air treatment unit adapted to be used in an air treatment duct having an interior defining an air path between a top and bottom of the air treatment duct, comprising a module power socket; and a light module, comprising a housing having a sidewall and a lip that is selectively engaged with the top of the air treatment duct; an integral UV light source and light source socket, but fails to teach the power socket being located proximate the top of the air treatment duct, a baffle, and the sidewall extending downwardly from the lip so that the baffle extends across the air path. Spanton teaches air treatment apparatus adaptable for use with an air treatment duct, which would have an interior defining an air path between the top and bottom of the air duct, but fails to teach a module power socket being located proximate the top of the air treatment duct. Spanton further teaches a light module, comprising a housing having a side wall and lip, the lip selectively engaged with the top of an air treatment duct, but fails to teach that the sidewall extends downwardly from the lip; an UV light source and light source socket, where the UV light

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source is fixed to the light source socket and extends down into the air treatment duct to expose UV light from the UV light source when the UV light source is powered, but fails to teach that the UV light source and light source socket are fixed to a baffle. Spanton also fails to teach a connector located at the lip of the housing for supplying power to the UV light source socket and respectively to the UV light source. None of the references teach the claimed limitations nor would it have been obvious to combine references to achieve the claimed inventive subject matter.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brad Y. Chin whose telephone number is 571-272-2071. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday, 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sun (John) Kim, can be reached at 571-272-1142. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

byc
May 20, 2005


JOHN KIM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER